

The World Wide Web and the Wide World of Taxes !

Many state pages have information for tax and revenue services, and these two pull together all of the states quite well.

<http://www.uni.edu/schmidt/tax.html> (Maintained by Dennis Schmidt, Associate Professor of Accounting, University of Northern Iowa)

<http://www.ifi-mpls.com/financial/>
(Maintained by International Features, Inc.)

Some of the links on these pages merely point to addresses for state tax information. Others provide access to online forms that can be downloaded. In order to view or print downloaded forms, it is necessary to have a PDF reader, such as Adobe Acrobat. The Adobe Acrobat reader can be downloaded for free from the following web site:

<http://www.adobe.com/prodindex/acrobat/readstep.html>

Thank you, Leslie Murtha, for your contribution of the tax oriented WWW data.

For the people who are trying to find New York State and Pennsylvania tax forms, try the following addresses and phone numbers (these were found through the above mentioned recommended sites today [January 30, 1996]) :

New York State Tax Department Taxpayer Assistance Bureau W A Harriman Campus Albany, NY 12227 1-800-748-3676	Pennsylvania Department of Revenue 2850 Turnpike Industrial Drive Middletown, PA 17057-5492 1-888-PATAXES (1-888-728-2937)
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Did You Know...

Eureka, the publication of the Reference Services Department of the Morris County Library, has all sorts of interesting insights on reference issues.

This month, Lynne Olver, editor of this newsletter, includes helpful information and lists reference sources about "penny stocks," discussion on how to evaluate a web site, and much more !

You can see Eureka on the Web (<http://www.gti.net/mocolib1/monthly.html>).

Highlands Happenings

The Executive Board of the Highlands Regional Library Cooperative (HRLC) recently extended the contracts for its specialized reference centers through the end of the 1997 fiscal year.

One of the newest centers, the Consumer Health & Medical Information Service, located at Morristown Memorial Hospital, has been open since July 1, 1996. It has proved popular with the member libraries and their patrons in providing consumer health information for the Highlands region.

Although not strictly a reference service, the newest HRLC "Center" is the Technology Training Center, soon to be located in Somerset County's Bridgewater headquarters. It will open in early March 1997, with ten work stations for twenty learners, and many instructional "bells and whistles" to ease learning.

HRLC trainees will have first priority for the facility, but it will also be available to people from around the Highlands region, both library staff and clients, for group and individual training. This center is funded directly by the State Library.

While the first Technical Training Center is nearly open, plans for a second center are also forthcoming, with proposals due into the HRLC office by February 3, 1997. This will provide geographical balance to the first center, and provide for twice the training !

Thank you, Barbara Carroll, the acting program coordinator of the Highlands Regional Library Cooperative, for providing the previously listed updates.

Statement on the P-TRAK file from LEXIS-NEXIS

Incorrect information is being distributed on Internet newsgroups and e-mail regarding the data displayed in LEXIS-NEXIS' P-TRAK file. P-TRAK is like an electronic "white pages." The only information displayed is the name of the individual, current address and up to two previous addresses and telephone number. In some cases, the *individual's* maiden name may appear as well as the month and year of birth. That is the *ONLY* information displayed in the P-TRAK file. The data included in P-TRAK are records of U.S. residents only.

Contrary to some e-mail messages that have been posted to some Internet discussion and news groups, the P-TRAK file *does not* contain any credit histories, bank account information, personal financial data, mother's maiden name or medical histories. This misinformation has been posted over and over again to various news groups. An example of a record appears below:

Name: DOE, JOHN E
Current Address: 1066 Anywhere Drive, Dayton, OH 95454
Previous Addresses: 106 Somewhere Drive, Dayton, OH 92454
Birthdate: 9/1965
Telephone number: 555-1212
On file since: 6/1/1994

The information displayed in the P-TRAK file is the type of information readily available from public information sources such as telephone directories (in print and CD-ROM format) and public records maintained by government agencies. The information contained in P-TRAK is derived from "header" information provided to LEXIS-NEXIS by a national consumer reporting agency. LEXIS-NEXIS markets the P-TRAK file to the legal community for use by general legal practitioners, litigators and public attorneys, as well as law enforcement agencies and police departments. These professionals use the P-TRAK file to assist in locating litigants, witnesses, shareholders, debtors, heirs and beneficiaries.

LEXIS-NEXIS is aware of the sensitivities regarding the potential misuse of information. Business competitors of LEXIS-NEXIS have for some time made Social Security numbers available to users of their services. In addition, Social Security numbers and other information are available on the Internet from a number of sources. Despite this wide availability of Social Security numbers in the market place, LEXIS-NEXIS discontinued the display of Social Security numbers in the P-TRAK file as of June 11, 1996, eleven days after the product was introduced. While Social Security numbers are NOT displayed in P-TRAK, subscribers may locate a record by entering a known Social Security number.

Through its actions, LEXIS-NEXIS is balancing the privacy concerns of the public with the legitimate needs of legal, business and government professionals for access to accurate sources of publicly available information. By discontinuing the

display of Social Security numbers in P-TRAK and only providing information that is already available to the public from other sources, the company believes it has responsibly met the expressed concerns of the public. LEXIS-NEXIS is a business to business online service, not generally available to the public.

Individuals interested in having their names removed from the P-TRAK file can e-mail their full names, complete addresses and telephone numbers to: p-trak@prod.lexis-nexis.com or mail this information to ATTN: P-TRAK, P. O. Box 933, Dayton, OH 45401. A World Wide Web-based form for deletion is available at <http://www.lexis-nexis.com/lbcc/p-trak/index.html>. You may also fax your request to 1-800-732-7672. Name removal occurs on average of 60 days of the request and a letter of confirmation will be sent within two weeks of removal. This information will be used solely to remove names from the P-TRAK database and for no other purpose. Also, for your protection, LEXIS-NEXIS will only accept removal requests from individuals and does not support any third-party removal services.

Point of Reference received this press release from Judi Schultz at NEXIS - LEXIS upon request. Last revised on 11/26/96, 10/25/96, and 9/25; first issued on 9/18/96.

The Reference Section of NJLA -- A Year in Review

It has been a productive year for the Reference section. Several new members at large were welcomed to the Executive Board in the past few months and they have brought new skills and ideas.

The newsletter, Point of Reference, has been revived after a hiatus. An issue was mailed to all section members during the fall of 1996.

The reference section sponsored two programs this year. At the Spring Conference, a program on document delivery was well received by an audience of about 75 conference attendees. On October 30, 1996, 175 people attended the workshop "Integrating the Internet into Information Services," held at the Monmouth County Library. Evaluations of the program were overwhelmingly positive.

A program on troubleshooting technical problems in reference is in the planning stages for the Spring 1997 Conference.

A report was prepared for the NJLA President regarding section evaluations. It included future goals for the Reference Section, which include recruiting members at large from all regions, pursuing greater interaction with other sections, and publishing print and electronic versions of the newsletter.

Prepared for the NJLA 12-6-96 Business Meeting by John A Sitnik

A Second Reminder...

All NJLA Reference Section members who currently get Point of Reference may opt for an email account instead. For those that prefer this (or if you have questions about this newsletter or the Reference Section) just contact me, Stephen Brunskill (your editor), through my work phone (201-538-6161), fax number (201-267-4064), or email me at BRUNSKILL@MAIN.MORRIS.ORG, and the following edition will pop into your mailbox !

Rutgers Spring 1997 PDS Seminar Series

Many of these seminars and workshops, offered through the Professional Development Studies office through Rutgers University, won't be held until Spring 1997, but register early if you are interested. For more information, contact Karen Novick (PDS Office: Rutgers University [908-932-7169]).

Technostress: Strategies for Prevention and Coping
(Wednesday, 4/16/97; Ramada Inn [East Brunswick])
Serving Previously Unserved Populations
(Tuesday, 6/3/97; Ramada Inn [East Brunswick])
Resource Sharing: Current Issues and Future Trends
(on Wednesday, 5/21/97; Ramada Inn [East Brunswick])
Best Social Science & Humanities Sites On the Internet
(Wednesday, 5/28/97; Ramada Inn [East Brunswick])
Best Science and Health Sites On the Internet
(Tuesday, 5/6/97; Ramada Inn [East Brunswick])
Introduction to the Internet
(Tuesday, 4/15/97; Levin Bldg, Rutgers-Livingston)
Tips on Improving Internet Use
(Thursday, 5/29/97; Levin Bldg, Rutgers-Livingston)
Search Strategies for the World Wide Web
(Friday, 5/16/97; Robeson Library, Rutgers-Camden)
Multimedia over the Internet
(Wednesday, 5/21/97; SCILS Bldg, Rutgers-College Ave)
Configuring Helper Applications and Plug-Ins Using Netscape
(Wednesday, 5/14/97; SCILS Bldg, Rutgers-College Ave)
Creating Your Own Web Page Using Netscape Navigator Gold
(Macintosh Lab: on Tuesday, 5/13/97; SCILS Bldg, Rutgers-College Ave)
(PC Lab: on Monday, 6/9/97; Levin Bldg, Rutgers-Livingston)
Creating Web Pages: Beyond the Basics
(Macintosh Lab: on Tuesday, 5/20/97; SCILS Bldg, Rutgers-College Ave)
(PC Lab: on Tuesday, 6/10/97; Levin Bldg, Rutgers-Livingston)

Reference Section Officers

John Sitnik - President
Jan Perrier - Vice President / President Elect
Sylvia Gaddi - Past President
Catherine Sullivan - Secretary
Henriann Robins - Treasurer

Members at Large

Joan Dicker	Roberta Tipton
Val Clark	Ann Oster
Leslie Murtha	Stephen Brunskill.

Stephen Brunskill, Editor Point Of Reference

Hey, You !

Yes, the person receiving this newsletter ! Are you:

- Looking to get involved with one of the NJLA's largest sections ?
- Interested in expressing your ideas for workshops ?
- Hungry to learn (or to share) issues and / or questions that affect your work ?

Contact the editor of the Point of Reference (see within) and learn more . . .

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Point of Reference

The Newsletter of the Reference Section
of the New Jersey Library Association

New Jersey Library Association
4 West Lafayette Street
Trenton, NJ 08608